Def-1-USS Liberty (213) 1S

Department of State TELEGRAM

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SUBJ: USS LIBERTY CLAIMS

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY TELLS US GOI HAS DEBIT NOTICE DATED APRIL 28 FROM BANK OF ISRAEL DIRECTING BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA TO MAKE PAYMENT TO FEDERAL RESERVE BANK NEW YORK. SUGGEST DEPT ASCERTAIN WHETHER PAYMENT NOT ALREADY RECEIVED.

2. GOI (ELIZUR, DIRECTOR NORTH AMERICAN DEPT, MFA) AGREES WITH ISSUANCE PRESS STATEMENT WITH REQUEST FOR FOLLOWING CHANGES:

3. FIRST PARAGRAPH, INSTEAD OF "CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF ATTACK ON USS LIBERTY" SAY "CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF TRAGIC ERROR IN WHICH USS LIBERTY WAS ATTACKED ETC". ELIZUR NOTED THIS WAS SIMILAR TO LANGUAGE USED IN DEFENSE DEPT PRESS RELEASE JUNE 11, 1968 IN CONNECTION AWARDING MEDAL OF HONOR TO CAPTAIN OF LIBERTY.

4. FOURTH PARAGRAPH, INSERT "IN FULL" BETWEEN "PAID" AND "CLAIMS", SO THAT POINT IS MADE THAT DEATH CLAIMS WERE ALSO PAID IN FULL. END SENTENCE WITH WORD "ATTACK" AND TRANSFER "ON MAY 31, 1968" TO COME AFTER "GOI".

5. IN LAST PARAGRAPH, REPLACE "WHICH WAS PRESENTED ON JULY 3, 1968" WITH "WHICH REMAINS UNDER DISCUSSION" (ship damage cla
IF INQUIRIES ARE RECEIVED REGARDING THIS PARAGRAPH OF PRESS RELEASE, GOI WOULD HOPE THAT DEPT WOULD LIMIT

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COMMENT TO STATEMENT THAT CLAIM WAS UNDER DISCUSSION AND NOTHING COULD THEREFORE BE SAID ABOUT IT AT PRESENT. IN DISCUSSING THIS PARAGRAPH, NEITHER EMBOFF (IN ACCORDANCE PREVIOUS MESSAGE) NOR ELIZUR MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO SUBSTANCE OF SHIP CLAIM.

6. EMBASSY CONCURS CHANGES SUGGESTED BY GOI ARE DESIRABLE AND RECOMMENDS THEIR ACCEPTANCE. BARBOUR

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